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Attorney Docket No.: 015280-352100US Client Ref. No.: E-143-1998/0-US-04

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on //acs 22, 2004

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: and

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

PAVLAKIS and NAPPI

Application No.: 09/673,716

Filed: February 26, 2001

For: NOVEL POST-

TRANSCRIPTIONAL REGULATORY ELEMENTS AND USES THEREOF

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 4088

Examiner:

Winkler, Ulrike

Technology Center/Art Unit: 1648

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 21, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks. A petition to extend time to respond for two months, from January 21, 2004, to March 22, 2004, is filed concurrently herewith. Also filed concurrently is a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 by Drs. George Pavlakis and Filomena Nappi.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.